GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7206
ANSWERED ON:14.05.2002
SCIENCE PROGRAMME
AVSM, BRIG.(RETD.) KAMAKHYA PRASAD SINGH DEO

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to popularize the science programme in the country;

(b) whether NCERT and NSCM have got any role in the programme;

(c) if so, whether necessary structure for the purpose like science park, energy park have been provided;

(d) if so, the details in this regard; and

(e) if not the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. RITA VERMA)

(a): Yes, Sir. The Government is providing financial assistance under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme - 'Improvement of Science Education' to States/UTs and eligible Voluntary Organisations, to improve the quality of science education and also scientific temper as envisaged in the National Policy on Education, 1986. Government has also set up a National Council for Science & Technology Communications in 1982, with the objectives of popularizing science & technology and stimulating scientific temper amongst different sections of the population. The Council has undertaken National campaigns such as Bharat Jan Vigyan Jatha(1987), Bharat Jan Gyan Vigyan Jatha(1992), Children's Science Congress(since 1993 - now in its 10th year) to popularize science in urban and rural areas.

(b): The National Council for Educational Research and Training has been pursuing the programme of popularization of science through projects/programmes such as exhibitions, publication of books/journal etc. The National Council of Science Museums, Kolkata, an autonomous organisation attached to the Deptt. of Culture has been set up with the objective to popularise science and technology in cities, urban and rural areas for the benefit of students and for the common man and has been organising exhibitions, seminars, popular lectures, science camps and various other programmes.

(c) to (e) : NCERT is establishing a Science Park at NCERT campus, New Delhi. So far 17 models have already been installed in the Park. Instructions for each model to guide the visitors are under preparation. The project is an on-going one, in which the existing models will be further improved and new models will be added from time to time. The Department of Culture is also contemplating to evolve norms for setting up of Science Cities in various States. The Science Park is proposed to be one of the main constituent of the Science City. The Science Park will be developed to offer science education in a park environment where learning will be through play, fun and enjoyment like parabolic reflectors to carry voice to a large distance, levers and pulleys to lift load easily. In addition, it shall contain animals, water bodies with ducks and fishes, cactus corner, green house etc.